

OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

MAY 29, 2020

Visitation: During yesterday's press conference, [Gov. Mike DeWine announced](#) the state would begin allowing outdoor visitation at care facilities, including ICFs, beginning on June 8th. We are still awaiting an updated order from ODH, outlining the requirements to begin visitation, as well as updated guidance from DODD for both ICFs and waiver settings. We expect the guidance to include a 'risk mitigation' process to weigh individual and agency risk and plan for the safest visitation possible. We know this is a priority issue for people, families and providers, and we are working with DODD to get clear guidance for all settings, giving agencies direction on how to set their visitation policies.

Updated Day & Vocational Guidance: On Tuesday, DODD released revisions to the symptom log, team process, and provider assurances for people and agencies looking to return to day and vocational services. Most notable changes include the ability to separate service groups by 6ft dividers as opposed to solid walls, and the relaxation of PPE required to provide personal care (changed to only face coverings and gloves). Additionally, After several 'core committee' meetings, DODD has also proposed revised transportation guidance reducing distance between passengers back down to '3-6ft' as opposed to the current guidance mandating a 6ft distance. This revised guidance proposal still needs approval from ODH and the Governor's Office before implementation and we are hopeful we will know more early next week.

[To read the updated day & vocational guidance, click here.](#)

PPP Bill: Earlier this week [the US House of Representatives passed a bill](#) to enact the following changes to the Paycheck Protection program; "(1) change the program sunset date from June 30, 2020 to December 31, 2020, (2) extend the rehiring deadline for loan forgiveness from 8 to 24 weeks, (3) lengthen the loan maturity date from 2 to 5 years, (4) extend the rehiring deadline to align with the expiration of enhanced Unemployment Insurance, (5) require employers to comply with coronavirus safety standards, and (6) provide a "Borrower's Choice" provision, which allows those who received PPP loans prior to enactment to choose for the covered period of their loan to either last 8 weeks or 24 weeks from origination." The bill now moves to the US Senate.

EVV Letter: Earlier this week, [OPRA signed on to a coalition letter](#) with the Ohio Council for Home Care and Hospice, the Ohio Health Care association, LeadingAge Ohio, and a few other groups to request that ODM delay the deadline for needing alternate vendor demonstrations due to the pandemic to September. After this morning's call, we learned ODM is pushing the deadline for alternate vendor certification to Sept 1, 2020.

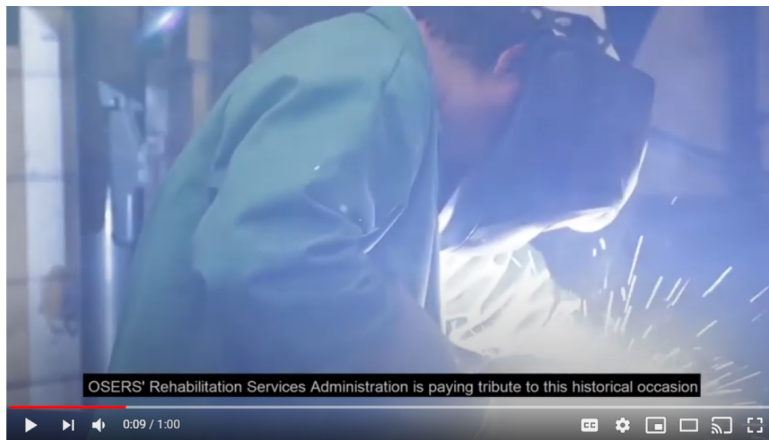
Civil Liability: Yesterday the Ohio House of Representatives passed their bill to offer businesses immunity from civil litigation that stems from COVID-19. [OPRA previously submitted this testimony in support of the bill.](#) The Ohio Senate is discussing their own version of the bill, which may see movement through that chamber as early as next week.



In Case You Missed It...

Additional Updates From The OPRA Team and System Partners

100 Years of Vocational Rehabilitation: Per OOD Release- "June 2, 2020, marks the 100th anniversary of the Vocational Rehabilitation program in the United States. The National Civilian Vocational Rehabilitation Act was signed into law by President Woodrow Wilson on June 2, 1920. This act, also known as the Smith-Fess Act of 1920 or the Industrial Rehabilitation Act, created the first federally funded program to assist civilians with disabilities. This pioneering legislation has prompted many more initiatives through the years to support people with disabilities to reach their career goals. RSA is celebrating the landmark anniversary with online offerings. **"The State Vocational Rehabilitation Services Program: The First 100 Years" video** offers a complete historical perspective of the Vocational Rehabilitation program. The **"Celebrating a Century of Success" webinar** will take place on Tuesday, June 2, 2020, from 2:30 - 3:30 p.m



DSPOhio: DSP Ohio's time limited campaign to draw applicants to the field during the COVID-19 crisis will be coming to a close. Since May 1st, the campaign has generated over 1.6 Million 'impressions and over 16,000 visits to the DSP Ohio Website, with almost 15,000 being unique users. Please remember to let Anita know if you have hired anyone through the site.

Upcoming Events

6/4: OPRA Day Array Committee Meeting.

6/10: DODD Virtual Family Advisory Council Meeting

News and Resources

Ohio ramps up Covid-19 testing in nursing homes, developmental centers

COVID-19 Update: Ohio issues final plan for health care isolation centers

SAW hoping to reopen developmental disability activity centers

Local designers collaborate to 'Save a Hero'

